[2nd November 1931

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Legislative Council

Appointment of Council Secretaries.

525 *Q.*—Mr. C. Basu Dev: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the present Council Secretaries were appointed;

(*b*) what is the nature of the work they have so far done; and

(*c*) the sums they have each drawn for each month on account of travelling allowance since their appointment?

A.—(*a*) Messrs. T. Sundara Rao Nayudu, M.L.C., and R. Madanagopal Nayudu, M.L.C., assumed charge of the office of Council Secretary on the afternoon of the 12th January 1931, and Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib, M.L.C., assumed charge on the afternoon of the 16th January 1931.

(*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to page 138 of Volume II of the Madras Legislative Council Manual which gives the duties of the Council Secretaries.

(*c*) The Government have no information but will call for it.

Prisons

Viswabrahman convicts and facilities to preserve their orthodox.

526 *Q.*—Pandit Ganala Ramamurti: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the Viswabrahman community as a class does not take food and water from anybody's hands except cooked by themselves;

(*b*) whether it was brought to the notice of the Government that a separate kitchen including brass vessels for eating and drinking purposes may be supplied to the Viswabrahman convicts as is done to Brahman prisoners; and

(*c*) the orders of the Government regarding this request?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) Does not arise.

Economic Condition

Economic condition of the ryots of the districts of Kistna, Godavari East and Godavari West.

527 *Q.*—Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have called for reports from the district authorities of Kistna, West and East Godavari on the present economic condition of the ryots of these districts;

2nd November 1931]

(b) whether they propose to collect the enhanced taxes in these districts in 1932; and

(c) what steps they have taken or propose to take to give relief to ryots in distress on account of the economic depression?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The questions will be considered on receipt of the reports called for.

Public Health

Water-supply scheme for Tuticorin municipality.

528 *Q.*—Mr. A. P. L. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) when the question of water-supply scheme for the Tuticorin municipality was taken up for consideration by Government;

(b) when the plans and estimates were prepared and when they were sanctioned by the Government; and

(c) if the scheme has not yet been completed, what the reasons are for the delay?

A.—(a) The question of a water-supply scheme for Tuticorin has been engaging the attention of the Government for over half a century.

(b) Plans and estimates for a complete water-supply scheme were prepared in the year 1915 and sanctioned in the year 1918. A revised estimate amounting to Rs. 27·83 lakhs was prepared and sanctioned in the year 1926.

(c) New engines indented for have to be erected; the elevated reinforced concrete reservoir is under construction; re-testing and re-joining the mains of the distribution system and some other subsidiary work have to be done. All these are expected to be completed by about June 1932.

Delay in the execution of the water-supply scheme for Tuticorin municipality.

529 *Q.*—Mr. Daniel Thomas: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tuticorin municipality has been collecting a heavy tax from the year 1915 for a protected scheme of water-supply to the town;

(b) whether the works pertaining to the scheme finally sanctioned by the Government in 1926 are still pending completion;

(c) whether the Government have investigated into the delay in the execution of the works and what steps have been or proposed to be taken to complete the works without further delay; and

(d) when the Government expect the works will be completed and handed over to the municipality?

[2nd November 1931

A.—(*a*) The Tuticorin Municipal Council was levying water-supply and drainage tax at the rate of 8 to 9 per cent per annum between the years 1915 and 1924. The tax was suspended in the year 1924–25. The Municipal Council has since been levying the tax at the rate of 5½ per cent per annum.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes. The Chief Engineer has been asked to see that the remaining works are carried out expeditiously and that no avoidable delays are allowed to occur.

(*d*) About June 1932.

Education

Alleged running of certain classes for the Sarada Vidyalaya in the Widows' Home.

530 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Sister Subbalakshmi Ammal has been running a certain number of classes in the Widows' Home under her own private management and control;

(*b*) whether she has obtained the previous permission of Government for running these classes in addition to her work for Sarada Vidyalaya, Mylapore, for which she has been honorary correspondent; and

(*c*) whether the sanction of Government has been obtained for holding these classes in the Home and if so, what rent is paid by her therefor?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No. No rent has ever been collected.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

II.—BILLS.

(1) THE NAMBUDIRI BILL.

11-45 a.m. * The hon. the President:—" The House will now resume consideration of the motion on the Nambudiri Bill."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" Sir, with reference to this Bill, as in the case of my Friend, Mr. Narayanan Nambiyar's Bill, I have given notice of an exactly similar amendment, namely, that this Bill No. 14 of 1931 of Mr. Madhusoodhanan Thangal be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon. I move that amendment.